



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Dub Thomas, Kerr County/City of Ingram Emergency Management Coordinator 830-739-9590

WThomas@co.kerr.tx.us

Roger Lampman, City of Kerrville Emergency Management Coordinator 830-329-6599

Roger.Lampmanjr@kerrvilletx.gov

Hurricane Harvey update August 25, 2017

Kerrville, Texas

Hurricane Harvey has been upgraded to a Category 3 for Texas landfall sometime Friday evening or Saturday morning. Kerr County and the City of Kerrville Emergency Management is monitoring local conditions. Rainfall amounts of up to 6 inches are possible for the area.

Weather forecasts show a potential for heavy rainfall in the Kerrville and Kerr County area over the next several days. As a result, city and county departments are taking precautionary measures in preparation for potential flooding, and emergency management crews have raised the Emergency Alert Level to yellow.

The City of Kerrville and Kerr County would like to remind residents of several precautions to take in the event of flash flooding, most importantly to "Turn Around, Don't Drown" if you encounter a flooded road.

Each year more deaths occur due to flooding than from any other thunderstorm related hazard. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that over half of all flood-related drownings occur when a vehicle is driven into hazardous flood water. The next highest percentage of flood-related deaths is due to walking into or near flood waters. Individuals often underestimate the force and power of water. The City of Kerrville and Kerr County would like to encourage all residents to be "Flood Aware" and remember the following precautions to take in the event of flash flooding:



- “Turn Around, Don’t Drown” if you encounter a flooded road.
- Avoid walking or driving through flood waters.
- If there is a chance of flash flooding, move immediately to higher ground. Flash floods are the #1 cause of weather-related deaths in the US.
- If floodwaters rise around your car but the water is not moving, abandon the car and move to higher ground. Do not leave the car and enter moving water.
- Avoid camping or parking along streams, rivers, and creeks during heavy rainfall. These areas can flood quickly and with little warning.

Understanding your flood risk and being connected to emergency warning systems is also essential. In Kerr County we use CodeRed. For more information about flooding in the hill country and ways you can be “Flood Aware,” please visit the following resources:

- The Upper Guadalupe River Authority – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTsJxE-ZZU0&feature=youtu.be>
- Texas Water Development Board - <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/prep/>
- The National Weather Service - <http://www.floodsafety.noaa.gov/>
- The National Hurricane Center <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>
- Video: Be Flood Aware: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTsJxE-ZZU0&feature=youtu.be>

To sign up for CodeRed, the Kerr County Emergency warning system, go to <http://co.kerr.tx.us/>